

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A solar cell comprising an electrode coated with lead-free solder.
2. The solar cell of claim 1, wherein said electrode is formed of metal paste fired.
3. The solar cell of claim 1, wherein any technique of metal vapor deposition, sputtering, and plating is used to provide said electrode.
4. The solar cell of claim 1, wherein said lead-free solder is one of Sn-Bi-Ag-based solder and Sn-Ag-based solder.
5. The solar cell of claim 2, wherein said metal paste contains powdery silver, powdery glass, an organic vehicle, an organic solvent, phosphorous oxide, and halide.
6. A solar cell comprising an electrode coated with lead-free solder after said electrode is cleaned with flux including resin, a solvent, and a stabilizer for resin.
7. An interconnector for solar cells, comprising a metal core coated with lead-free solder.
8. A solar cell string comprising solar cells including electrodes interconnected with interconnectors, wherein said electrodes each are coated with lead-free solder and said interconnectors each are also coated with lead-free solder.
9. The solar cell string of claim 8, wherein said lead-free solder used for said solar cell and said lead-free solder used for said interconnector are identical in composition.

10. The string of claim 9, wherein Bi is contained in at least one of said lead-free solder for said solar cell and said lead-free solder for said interconnector.

11. The solar cell of claim 4, wherein said lead-free solder contains 3 to 89 mass % Bi.

12. The string of claim 10, wherein said lead-free solder contains 3 to 89 mass % Bi.

13. The string of claim 8, wherein Ag is contained in at least one of said lead-free solder for said solar cell and said lead-free solder for said interconnector.

14. The solar cell of claim 4, wherein said lead-free solder contains 3.5 to 4.5 mass % Ag.

15. The string of claim 13, wherein said lead-free solder contains 3.5 to 4.5 mass % Ag.